

**Heather Woods**

2021 ADDC West Region Director

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Dear West Region Members,

I hope your summer is off to a wonderful start. Life seems to become increasingly busy this time of year. While planning your activities, be sure to consider including the ADDC Convention in New Orleans held September 21-25, 2021. The Registration Packet is in the works and should be out soon.

Does your club have a Brown Bag Lunch or something similar? I know a couple of our West Region clubs do and they are an excellent way to network, make friends, and maybe encourage a new member to join. With restrictions of groups lifting in most places, you could put out an open invitation to meet-up at a restaurant in town or a loose meeting time at a park where you bring your own lunch. It is so nice to get to visit with fellow members without a meeting agenda keeping you focused on a task or presenter.

Memorial Day is observed this year in the United States on May 31st. Did you know that Memorial Day originated from a tradition called Decoration Day? This tradition seems to have developed in communities after the Civil War when citizens would decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with springtime flowers. Memorial Day was not declared a federal holiday until 1971. Take time to consider the sacrifice of those lost in the line of duty and the burden of that loss on their families, friends, and communities.

As always, feel free to reach out if there is anything I can do for you.

Sincerely,

Heather

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